SUNDAY January 4, 1920 THEODORE W. NOYES.... Editor

The Evening Star Newspaper Company Business Office, 11th St. and Penngylvania Ave. New York Office: Tribune Heliding. Chicago Office: First National Bank Building. European Office: 3 Regent St., London, England.

The Evening Star, with the Sunday morning adition, is delivered by carriers within the city at 60 cents per month; daily only, 45 cents per month; Sunday only, 20 cents per month. Orders may be sent by mail, or felephone Main 5000. Collection is made by carriers at the

Subscription Rate by Mail.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Daily and Sunday .1 yr., \$8.40; 1 mo., 76c

Daily only ... 1 yr., \$6.00; 1 mo., 50c

Sunday only ... 1 yr., \$2.40; 1 mo., 20c

post office at Washington, D. C.

Alien and Domestic Radicals.

One of the difficulties attending the effective round-up of radicals in this country that the government is at present undertaking lies in the 1900 census, and Detroit has gone for- world. fact that under the present laws it is hard to "get" those who are American citizens but who are engaged in harmful propaganda. So wide is the latitude of free speech in this country that Americans can with im- occupied by Boston, and possibly the punity participate in communistic fourth, held by St. Louis, may be atmovements, can openly declare for tained in the new decennial count. governmental changes, can express themselves freely in criticism of the institutions of government and the acts of officials. Criticism is regarded as an inslienable right. When persons of this ilk are found in bad company, associating with avowed anarchists and representatives of the soviet system of government, the presumption is naturally that they are themselves seeking to promote the cause of anarchism through the overthrow of our existing system. Yet when they are brought to book in court there is little, perhaps, upon which to convict them of actual sedition.

Much, of course, will be accomplished by purging the country of the pernicious alien radicals who form in many cases the leaders and in most cases the bulk of the following of these seditious groups. It is estimated that of the 4,500 corralled in the recent raids fully half are subject to deportation. This process can be continued profitably, and if the doors are barred firmly against the may be gradually cleansed of this ported, but must be dealt with here under the laws framed for the protection of public order and the preservation of the state.

ceeding against these propagandists, both alien and native, should give the public welfare the benefit of all intent to promote the overthrow of government he will have a chance in court. He will not be presumed guilty because of his associations. But he will pay at least the penalty of in more effective work. being compelled to defend himself before the law for joining in a subversive propaganda.

No good citizen can dally with this pernicious thing, generally and vaguely styled radicalism, which means, when stated in its clearest restless or dissatisfied, or critical of present institutions or administra- time. The session will be crowded tive measures, the American who believes that after all ours is the best there is agreement now by those form of government, who believes in charged with the framing of the progovernment itself, should hold strictly aloof from the mischief-makers who are trying to enroll the discoutented into an army of revolt.

Senator Harding attracts wide attention as a statesman who is as willing to answer questions as to pro-

Mexico's duties on gasoline and kerosene indicate that Carranza would rather be an oil king than a dictator.

The Fourteenth Census.

For the fourteenth time Uncle Sam is now counting his people. He is doing it systematically, on a big scale, having prepared for months in advance for this decennial enumeration. The primary purpose of the census is to escertain the population in order to determine the size of the House of Representatives, under the constitutional provision that "representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union according to their respective numbers."

For a long period after the first toms. census these decennial enumerations were conducted strictly for this purpose of determining the ratio of representatives in Congress, but eventually advantage was taken of the opportunity to utilize the survey for the development of other statistics. In about ten times the number allowed do it as well, or maybe better, myself. recent years the census has been a under the terms of the peace treaty. most valuable performance, eliciting Reduction of the force to 100,000 must facts and figures regarding national be effected by March 31. There is no conditions. The population feature reason at present to doubt that the of the census, though still the primary terms of the treaty will be met in object, is accompanied by an extensive survey of social, industrial, agricultural and economic conditions. size to deliver a disastrous blow From the census bureau's returns and against the allies as soon as their compilations and bulletins the people forces have been demobilized have Business is guided, research is aided returning from Germany declare and in general the census work per- there is no truth in them. mits the people of the country to know precisely the conditions in which they live, the trend of movements and the rate of development.

to 105,253,300 in 1918. It is believed against them. that the fourteenth census will show continental population close upon 110,000,000.

Between national counts cities, with sixth and seventh in rank in the ward since the 1910 count. Detroit's rapid rise gives it present hope that it will displace Cleveland as the sixth city, and some enthusiastic Detroiters even hope that the fifth place, now

Make Retirement a Certainty! Confident expectation is expressed that the civil retirement bill, which has been favorably reported to both in which a woman lost her life houses from committee, will be through the accidental starting of an enacted into law at the present session. This should surely be the case. The measure, after years of careful feeted, it is understood, that is enconsideration and many changes tirely satisfactory. With it installed from the original proposal, has now no car can be moved up or down until the indorsement of practically every the door is securely closed. This may responsible administrative official. It cause a slight slowing of service, but is urged as necessary for the relief that disadvantage is of little conseof the government from the weight quence in comparison with the greater of superannuation in the service, and safety. This recommendation should quite as necessary for the relief of be most carefully considered, with the the workers who have grown old in public security held as first requisite. the government's employ.

commission may report in the way of day. a scheme of co-ordinated compensa tions and definitions of duties, there The scale of pay may not be perfectly worked out for action this year, though that is highly desirable. ingress of others the national system But the retirement bill can be main, however, those who have been should not be held for consideration infected by the virus of social un- along with whatever form of basic rest who, being of native birth or legislation, the commission proposes acquired citizenship, cannot be de- and the congressional committees ap-

Retirement of the civilian employes of the government will not cost the government a cent, in terms The Department of Justice, in pro- of actual efficiency. It will actually asm over the fact that the demand for now proposed upon a cost-division supply. basis, with the clerks themselves uldoubts. If a person is innocent of timately carrying the major part of practical economy, whatever the gov- early" as a springtime slogan. ernment contributes toward retirement pay will be a rich investment

It is stated that those in charge of the bill in the two houses expect to see it made part of the stated legislative program. This is important. The bill should not be left to take its chances on the calendar or to come into competition with other terms, anarchism. No matter how measures that may for the moment appeal more strongly to members for with matters of urgency, and unless gram that this meritorious and now virtually unchallenged proposal shall be given a distinct position as one of the things that surely will be put through before adjournment, it may halt and wait and, as it has so often before, go over to another session, or possibly to another Congress.

Scientists who suspected that the Gulf stream had shifted so as to change the North American climate have had their fears set at rest by the

recent temperature.

Some of the old directors are won dering whether when the railroads are turned back they will be expected to sign for them as received in good

Statisticians who specialize on advances in food prices have been busy

much work for the minus mark.

New York banqueters who carry their own beverages have no one to for it." blame in case of wood alcohol symp

Germany's Army.

A statement comes from London that Germany's armed forces are now estimated by the British war office to be nearly a million men, which is this particular. Rumors of a secret mobile army in Germany of sufficient

Germany is in no condition economically or spiritually for another conflict, for many years. The old au- stitute for the old water wagon; also tocracy has been swept away and with that it leads to many a coroner's cer-The first census disclosed a national it has gone the power to compel mili- tificate takin' the place of a New Year very much worth while on the credit twenty-eight population of 3,929,214. That was in tary service in any cause for any ea- resolution.

1790. The subsequent decennial fig- casion. The people are thoroughly ures show the growth of the country war-weary and their supplies have graphically. In 1910 the enumeration been so exhausted that they could disclosed 91,962,266 people in conti- not, if they would, within a period of nental United States. Subsequent es- a decade, maintain a fighting machine imates based on carefully devised in the field comparable with the forces formulas have brought the total up that the allied countries could place

The destruction of the autocratic power in Germany, it has been said, has swept away the chief factor for German war-making. Yet countries an eye to their needs and ambitions, with true democratic governments conduct their own enumerations, and were able under the spur of neceshere is, as a rule, dissatisfaction with sity in 1914 and subsequently to he federal census returns, which are commandeer the man-power for denormally below the local counts. From fense. Universal military service in now until the announcement of the time of national necessity does not population reports by the census bu- depend upon fundamental despotism. reau there will be keen interest. Cer- | The United States, through its selectain cities are hot rivals for su- tive draft law, enacted in the emer premacy. For instance, Cleveland gency of war, presented its strength and Detroit, at present relatively in the field and would again, on oc casion, so recruit an army of defense United States, according to the or for the maintenance of essential census estimates of 1918, are now principles. In Germany the power to each hoping to be accredited with a wage offensive warfare through compopulation of 1,000,000. Both of pulsory service has gone, and with it them have advanced in rank since the has departed a factor for evil in the

Elevator Safety.

is believed, will prevent such accidents Such a getting upstairs in the Blueas that which occurred the other day grass state was never known before. elevator into which she had stumbled on entering. A device has been per-There should be no more such trage-No matter what the reclassification dies as that which cost a life the other

There will be some long sessions in must be some form of retirement to Chicago and St. Louis if nominating prevent congestion in the service. conventions find themselves called of new parties are in the air. The ture at Rome, \$16,600. upon to settle all the questions agitating the public mind.

A New York banker returned from enacted into law independently of the theater to find that his home had poisonous influence. There will re- the readjustment of salaries. It been robbed. It is a hard life for the "tired business man."

> So long as Lenin has announced a terrorizing bolshevik policy for this country it is as well to let the reds have the first scare.

There is not much economic enthusisave the government money. It is railway facilities is greater than the

There will not be much sympathy the expense. Actually, in respect to for any effort to introduce "strike

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON. Phraseology.

Oh, phraseology! Your music we enjoy. When themes of sociology Your energies employ; BUT

You do not put flour in the barrel, You do not put coal in the bin. You do not buy wearing apparel, nor fill out a pocketbook thin. You do not put cakes on the griddle. When the fat's in the fire, more or less, you simply propound a new riddle and ask everybody to guess.

Oh, phraseology! You come with cadence fine. From beans back to biology You lead us down the line;

You do not put coats on our shoulders. You do not put shoes on our feet. You do not remove ruts and boulders which on the long journey we meet. The toil that demands bone and gristle you seldom make out to reveal. Your tendency's too much to whistle, with not enough shove on the wheal.

A Pessimist's Observation. "We have no army of the unemploved."

"I don't know," rejoined Mr. Growcher. "After watching a few of the number in a state of unemployment. landed him in the White House. The difference is that they get paid

Rivalry Removed. "Why do you say you admire

Shakespeare, when you always select jazz entertainment?" "It's this way," replied Mr. Hibrouzer. "When I hear an actor reciting Shakespeare I always feel that I could

But when it comes to jazz I'm forced

to admit that I couldn't compete." Unemployed Facilities. When winter grows frozen and steely This thought will intrude: Cold storage is offered too freely,

With not enough food. "It is sometimes necessary," said doin' it is no good disciplinarian."

alcohol radiator is a mighty poor sub-

An Aroused Electorate. Evidence multiplies that this

year's campaign will be a hummer, from coast to coast, from start to finish. The republicans are stirring even in states where for a long time they have not had a look-in. In The Star's special correspondence from Florida, printed recently, the announcement appeared of the purpose ranks of the Texas democrats is publicans are decidedly perky, while trade might be enlarged. in Virginia they are preparing to at the polls of his appointment by Gov. Davis to the Martin vacancy.

A recommendation will be submit- in Maryland last November they lost througho ted to the Commissioners by Chief the race for governor by only a few this District with a device preventing lican candidate romped away with can business man. the operation of the cars while the governorship. He was forty doors are open or unlocked. This, it thousand to the good at the polls.

If these are new signs and conditions, it is to be remembered that these are new times. Everything, everywhere, is new. A new world ex-We are inaugurating a new era.

not in half a century been such a was less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

In addition to the above Congress actually appropriates certain moneys call to the electorate as is now reverberating. The voters must come the maintenance of the follo

disgruntled are very much in evi- tion bureau at Havana, \$41,450. dence. Old assaults on the two old again posted as corrupt and archaic, and the people urged to scrap them.

best as of old.

"Young Teddy."

A young man makes his debut in political office this week of whom high hopes are entertained by his friends. He is expected to go far, and with survey speed. This is Theodore Roosevelt-"Young Teddy"-son and namesake of the public favorite whose untimely death the country still mourns.

Following in the paternal footsteps "Young Teddy" begins as a member of the New York assembly. The session opens at Albany Wednesday, and will afford the debutant opportunity to in any line of foreign trade work, show his quality. The state's affairs and that the Secretary of Commerce be given full power to determine the are not in the best of condition. lines of all trade investigations to be Taxes are high. Expenses have been increasing. The people are murmuring about a number of things.

To add to the interest, not to say the gayety, of the situation the governor is a democrat, while the legislature is republican. And this is presidential year.

It is a situation in which the father would have delighted. He loved a "scrap," and handled himself well in one. He frequently started one.

He became so masterful a politician, popular appraisement of him is of a man who went unerringly at, and to, things. But he did not. He had to learn his trade, and blundered occasionally during his apprenticeship.

inclination was to refuse the use of his name that year for his party's collect vice presidential nomination, and it required strong pressure on the part of his friends to bring him round. helpers who have come along in con- Fortunately for him-they succeeded. for several years without developing nection with various kinds of work, I and fate, in a few months after he have concluded that we have a large had been invested with the office,

He blundered seriously and disastrously in 1912, when he split his through its party and sent it to defeat. He never saw it in control again, although four years later he exerted himself to the utmost to repair the injury he had done.

reputation he enjoyed. He possessed all the elements of leadership in a combination which has not been paralleled in our history.

The son starts in this long, deep shadow. He cannot hope, and presumably will not try, to duplicate

HOME TUNE UP FOREIGN TRADE MOTOR FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

To get all the waste motion out of commercial attaches or trade com foreign trade promotion, which is one of the big tasks Finds Little Duplication.

gress, as directed by the legislative of identical activities. appropriation act nine months ago. It is encouraging to American busiof the local republicans to put a state ness that the bureau of efficiency has ticket in the field. The split in the found very little real duplication of labors among the various federal widening, and giving the republicans developing foreign commerce and of the state something they take to making investigations regarding the be hope. In North Carolina the re- possible markets in which American

In emphasizing the extent to which nominate a candidate for United the United States government partici-States senator against Carter Glass, bureau calls the attention of Congress who is expected to ask indorsement to the fact that Uncle Sam has more than 600 official representatives, Gov. Davis to the Martin vacancy.

In the border states of Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri the republicans are in high feather. In 1918 in Missouri they won easily in a con- activities. Besides these 600 representest for United States senator, while tatives in foreign countries about 700 ship supercargoes make stops at ports throughout the world and gather such throughout the world and gather such permit. This is merely the field force. Elevator Inspector Evans that the hundred votes—in the circumstances, and co-operating with it is a still larger organization in this country regulations be amended to require the a victory. The Kentucky result was equipment of all elevators in use in what is called a dandy. The repub-

> During the present fiscal year Uncle Sam will spend well over \$2,000,000 for such trade Millions to promotion activities, as fol-

Promote Trade. lows: Department of Commerce, bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, \$1,043,710; ists. New problems are to be solved. Department of State, foreign trade New obligations press. While still adviser's office, \$65,000, and consular operating under the old and original service, \$800,000; Department of Agricharter and let us hope that we culture division of foreign marketing may long continue to do so—we have American Union, \$100,000: Internaourselves many new things in hand. tional High Commission, \$25,000, and the United States Tariff Commission, \$20,000, making a total of \$2,065,090 So it will be a good thing for us if everybody entitled to the ballot last fiscal year exceeded \$10,250,000, lends a hand this year. Everybody has a stake in the game. There has When it is considered that the for as the share of the United States in ternational organizations, the 1920 appropriations being quoted: International Institute of Agricul-Just now new parties and threats International trade mark registra International bureau for the publiparties are being renewed. Both are \$1,500.

The fourteen government depart-In the main this humor will pass. ments and establishments engaged trade commissioners

old cries, with many of the voters field of work are: The departments of now talking rebellion back in their Commerce, State and Agriculture; the old party places doing their little United States Shipping Board, the Pan-American Union, the International High Commission, the Treasury Department, United States Tariff Con mission, Federal Trade Commission, Interstate Commerce Commission, United States Railroad Administraon, Federal Reserve Finance Corporation and the Depart. ment of the Interio After a very careful and extensive survey of all these activities the

United States Bureau of Efficiency makes three brief recommendations for closer co-ordination of this wor First-That all resident foreign trade agents of the United States gov-ernment stationed abroad shall be accredited to the Department of State. Second—That all departments con-templating sending trade investigators or other trade agents abroad shall first confer with the Secretary of Com-merce in order to avoid duplication conducted in foreign countries.

Third—That all government agents abroad whose work regularly or in-cidentally results in the collection of foreign trade information of any description be required to send the data thus collected to the Department of Commerce, through the Department

of State, for publication and dissemination by the Department of Com-merce or for transmission to other branches of the government service for such use as they may deem proper The examination made by the efficiency bureau of the work actually performed by the

Five Agencies

fourteen depart

Work Directly. ments and estabthat only five are engaged directly in the promotion and development of foreign trade to any considerable extent, departments of Commerce, State and Agriculture, Pan-American Union He came near to blundering as late and the International High Commis as 1900, after reaching as high a Railroad Administration are engaged place as the governorship. His first in foreign trade only in the actual operation of carriers except that the operation of carriers except that the supercargoes of the Shipping Board collect general trade information when in foreign ports. The Interstate Commerce Commission touches the field of foreign trade only with refimport shipments in transit within the territory of the United States. The addifferently qualified representative in the field, and each is distributing the stand just in time to mission functioning as an advisory body to Congress on tariff tuestions investigates industrian me and abroad. The Federal Trade Commission is limited to the investi- for is the same; the particular phases gation of combinations in foreign of the work differ sufficiently to retrade. The Treasury Department, fute the charge of duplication. The trade. The Treasury Department, through its customs division, is the source of information for statistics of imports and exports. The Federal Reserve Board and the War Finance Corporation aid in promotion of foreign trade by negotiating foreign loans and maintaining banking conections abroad. The Department of the Interior through the bureau of But in a number of places, and in a striking way of his own, he did some notable things, and earned the reputation he enjoyed. He possessed

The five establishments directly en gaged in development and promotion of for

e i g : Doing the Same Thing Toward Different Ends. in a way his father's achievements in kind or doing the same thing. But while they Jud Tunkins, "to wallop a mule. But him and with the material fortune territory covered and the establishthey must be numerous. And if he applies himself as diligently and learns his trade as thoroughly as his father did, he should put something very much worth while on the credit side of the ledger.

ment of State have agents in all parts of the governments. This committee meets every Wednesday morning in the State Department. The bureau of efficiency finds possible opportunity to centralize correspondence, and discovers the lost of Commerce has thirty-two agents sible opportunity to centralize correspondence, and discovers the lost motion principally in duplication of library work; separate functioning abroad there are both consuls and will P. KENNEDY.

ment of State have agents in all parts of the job which Mr. Bradford in the State Department.

The bureau of efficiency finds possible opportunity to centralize correspondence, and discovers the lost motion principally in duplication of library work; separate functioning abroad there are both consuls and will P. KENNEDY. Uncle Bill Bottletop thinks the wood they must be numerous. And if he of the world. The Department of meets every Wednesde State has 450 agents who devote less the State Department.

commissioner services obviously canengaging fourteen not duplicate each others' work in places where only one of these servpartments and esices is represented. Where both are
represented duplication is usually tablishments, the United States avoided by the simple procedure of

Department of vestigators travel- passengers over the Washington obliged by

tural trade commissioner performs the lic is 'absolutely needed to provide for the expenses of the state.' In other same function as the resident trade words, Gov. Bowie makes the commissioner of the Department of admission that the state of Mary-Commerce, but only with reference to land is in so impecunious a position that it has to resort to the highpates in foreign trade promotion the trade in agricultural products. In way a la Dick Turpin, and levy trib the United Kingdom the territory of ute upon hapless passengers caugh the agricultural trade commissioner, in its territory, to enable it to meet the agricultural trade commissioner, the current expenses. This, too, after the consular agents and representathe Supreme Court has decided such tives of the Department of Commerce tax to be illegal! either refrain from making agricultural investigations or they work in such a way as to avoid duplication. The agents of the Department of Agsioners to acquaint themselves with decided unconstitutional by the in new fields

> The field of operations of the Panmerican Union as well as that of the Pan-American

Union's Work. Four investigators of the Pan-American Union have recently completed studies of general economic conditions in Latin American coun tries: these investigations are cited as typical of the work which the Pan-American Union does outside of the United States. The international high commission has sent groups of investigators to South America to study com mercial and financial conditions, bu foreign agents are not maintained in the field nor sent regularly, as is the case with the Pan-American Union. The possible duplication of general

economic investigation would occur un agents of the Pan-American Union and trade commissioners of the Latin Amer eign and domestic commerce. During the past year two trade co investigated general commercial condi-tions in Colombia, Venezuela, Bolviia and Peru. As the Pan-American Union agents also investigated general conditions in these same countries, the union vision might appear to have covered the same ground, However, the investigations differed materially in characteristics ter. The reports prepared by the Pan style, and are designed to acquaint the general reading public with the countries described, their physical and scenic features, the characteristics and occupations of the people, besides the commic conditions. The reports of the In the main this humor will show
The contest in good time will show
the two old entrants battling for suthe two old entrants battling for suth

> Certain other fundamental differen in the work of the five organizations actively engaged in foreign trade pro-Fundadmental

tions conducted by Differences. the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce relate for the most part to particular subjects and specific trade problems, and these researches receive the entire time of the specialists at work upon them. The De- Renumbering adopted by the counpartment of State, on the contrary, accomplishes its trade investigations in the foreign field, largely through ques-tionnaires and schedules to its hundreds of consular officers, who give such time filling in the desired data as they can spare from their routine notarial and other consular duties. Agriculture in connection with foreign trade is of a highly specialized nature. The investigations of the international high commission are rather incidental to the commission's main work of negotiating interna tional trade agreements and effecting desirable legislation. The commercia

Both the Pan-American Union and he international high commission are interna-

work of the Pan-American Union

largely non-technical in character and is interwoven with the promo-tion of peace and friendship as co-

veloping trade.

functions with that of de

Work in the Field of tional in scope, Latin America. forts are dinterests of all Latin American countries as well as those of the United to have taken quite a fancy to the States. This government bears only a share of the cost of maintaining these organizations, which is \$100,000 a year for the Pan-American Union and \$25,000 for the international high

In general, then, the bureau of efficiency advises Congress, the Depart-ments of State, Commerce and Agriculture, the Pan-American Union and culture, the Pan-American Union and moving.

The Airedale has the making of a all working at the same task of promoting foreign commerce, but each of these five establishments is appropriate the same task of promoting forms of the same task of promoting task of promoting the same task of promoting task of promotin interests. The general goal striven nine other departments and commis sions connected with the promotion of foreign trade are separately encommercial development relating severally to finance, transportation, the tariff and trust legislation.

With a view to co-ordinating the work of the various government de-

weekly meeting of a group of department representatives known as trade are the economic liaison committee. This in a way committee has no official status. Its function is to bring about co-opera-tion among the departments repredegree. He must make his own way are collecting material information sented, to provide for the informal in the circumstances that surround and enabling the trade interests of discussion of all questions relating this country to use it, the foreign to foreign trade and to prepare and distribute among the government departments timely reports on pertiderive much valuable information. lately prevailed, but British officers the man who breaks a rib or a leg provides. That he may go far will be ments and individuals served differ to nent subjects and questions relating the wish of his father's as well as of a considerable extent. The Depart- to the foreign commerce of the United States and its economic relations with his own friends; and, taken together, ment of State have agents in all parts other governments. This committee ment of State have agents in all parts to the foreign commerce of the Unite of meets every Wednesday morning in

The question of Maryland's tax on | are representing to citizens that they

claring it to be contrary to the Con- for a numbered plate-may be the subject:

The Department of Agriculture has Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Com-Agriculture. ing in South Amer- branch, that the money derived from numbers at as low a rate as 6 cents where higher-priced numbers are not lic is 'absoluted and the same and the same are not lic is 'absoluted and the same are not lice. financially when it has to resort to such expedients to make both ends

"At the same time the Raltimore The agents of the Department of Ag-riculture traveling in South America mitting the logical and legal blunder of continuing to collect a tax upon passengers that it concedes has been agricultural researches already com-pleted and pursue their investigations too, that it cannot lawfully pay over legal tribunal in the land. It admits, to the state after it is In this opinion it is suscollected. In this opinion it is sus-tained by the best legal authority of the country; yet it continues to levy the tax. From the moment it came to the decision, thus amply fortified. international high | not to pay this tax longer to the state of Maryland, it should have reduced the fare to the same extent over the Washington branch, and it is putting itself in a very awkward and initself in a very awkward and in-defensible position before the country by failing to do sow

> The year 1870 was one of the most rying years financially in the history of the United States, being marked by a series Rumors of of business failures that resulted in a panic. which was the worst that this country had up to that time experienced. That there was some premonition of this disaster through rumors of insecurity which gained little credence as the old year closed is indicated by the following in The Star of December 28,

nore flattering business situatio than was anticipated a few weeks mors were affoat of a general financial risis. A comparative statement shows that there have been 200 less failures closing than there were in a similar ed from outside speculations. Great wrong is done by the circulation of false reports about the standing of well known houses in a time when money is stringent and a feeling of uncertainty pervades financial circles. Sometimes these rumors are circulated malicious!, to injure credit, sometimes to gain a point in trade by nfluencing the markets, but more frequently we judge by gossining wonuld be not jeept to tell all they know and rathe ed. The investiga-tions conducted by sibility for the mischief they make.

> The new system of house numbering, similar to that which now prevails, had been cils fifty years ago advertising columns of The Star bear evidence of the change, as the ad-dresses of business houses are given in both styles, old and new. For inin both styles, old and new. For instance, the firm of French, Landran & Ogilvie, book dealers, is noted as "334 Pennsylvania avenue, new number, 909." In The Star of December 28, 1869, is the following brief editorial bear-

railroad passengers through the state must purchase the number plates from them, and that no plate can be supplied at less than 30 cents. Maryland's Tax not finally settled The fact is, the citizens can put up their own numbers, provided it is on Passengers. by the Supreme done within sixty days, and, though the sum of 6 cents—the lowest price tablishments, the United States avoided by the simple process together bureau of efficiency has prepared a the representatives getting together the representatives getting together and planning their work in such a report and recommendations for Conway as to eliminate the performance the subject. even that amount under the provision "It seems by the published letter of of the act. As a matter of con-Gov. Bowie to the president of the ventence, it will probably be well for citizens to make arrangements with one trade commissioner stationed in London and two iners of compulsion, and that they are

> It has been a long time since a vertable Christmas pantomime was seen in Washington. Ac-Pantomime and cording to an item in The Star of De-Minstrelsy. cember 28, 1869, the

> capital had the pleasure of witnessing such a performance that season. and incidentally this item discloses that a minstrel song that was popular for many years after was then in its early currency: "Gen. Sherman seems, like Gen. Grant, to have a great love for children, and last night took his boy and

> girl, home from school for the days, and Miss Nellie Grant, to National Theater, where the party seemed greatly to enjoy the adven-tures and misadventures of Clown and Pantaloon in the Christmas par tomime of 'Jack and the Bean Stalk.'
> The piece has been greatly improved and our readers should remember that this is the last week. "A tiptop program was presented by the Kelly and Leon minstrel troup

at Wall's Opera House last night. The performance of the sensation song and dance, 'Shoo Fly! Don't Bodder Me,' by Leon and Purdy, brought down Me,' by Leon and Purdy, brought down the house and had to be repeated. Mr. Edwin Kelly's ballad singing was good and his impersonation of 'Uncle Jack in the farce of 'Twice Married' was capital. The burlesque on the opera of 'Norma,' which concluded the performance, and in which Leon, Kelly, Purdy and others took part, was a great success. Tonight 'Shoo Fly' will be repeated."

Edwin M. Stanton accumulated no fortune, and his family at his death was left without adequate

Stanton's Family. provision. In December 29, 1869, is the following "Measures have already been inaugurated to place the family of the late

of business firms for the season just Edwin M. Stanton in a comfortable period in 1868, and two-thirds of the left no property but the house ocaggregate this year was made up of small firms. The Boston Herald, in its Three of his children are under four-cheerful anticipations for 1870, com-teen years of age and consequently ments quite justly upon 1869. It says are yet to be educated. A meeting of since the war, but there has been no sudden shrinkage of values which a the residence of Hon. Samuel Hoop fair margin for fair margin for profits would not place the sum of \$100,000 to the credit cover, and the failures which are tak- of Mr. Stanton's family by New Year ing place have generally been of weak day. President Grant had subscribed concerns, where they have not resultfused to permit his friends to do any thing of the kind, but they now feel themselves at liberty to care for his family.

According to an item in The Star of December 31, 1869, a definite move-

ment for the annexaquently we judge by gossiping won-der-mongers, who have no object exlumbia to the United Annexation. States was undertaken, though it came to naught:

"Vincent Colyer of New York, on Wednesday, had an interview with the resident and presented to him a me morial signed by property holders and business men of Victotria in favor of united States. This memorial will be followed by another, signed by merof buildings was in progress. The advertising columns of The Star bear evidence of the charge and the memorial with much intary of State. Before submitting it the President Mr. Colyer showed the memorial to Senator Sumner, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, who, after reading it, said the movement was important and should have but one termination. The the renumbering process:

"We hear that some of the parties engaged in renumbering the houses, under the recent act of the councils, confederation with Canada."

snould nave but one termination. In the case of the reasons why the memorial issts earnestly desire the acquisition of this country by the under the recent act of the councils, confederation with Canada."

Washington is to be seen of sun- ing. shiny afternoons at 18th street and Columbia road, taking instructions and their ef- from a real "traffic cop" located there. This traffic dog is a big, lanky Aire- person may "get his foot into it." rected toward promoting the trade dale belonging to a householder up the block a way. The big dog seems policeman, after the manner of dogs, and comes out to assist him whenever

> The policeman has a little wooden stand, and on this he and his friend the dog stand. The cop directs the traffic, of course, but the dog takes great interest in the proceedings, standing faithfully by his friend's side for hours at a time, scarcely great traffic policeman, his friend the real policeman says. The dog is

policeman has a little wooden

he can.

point dumbly at the counter and smile foolishly. At least, that was the way he felt. lumbia without having set foot on

the streets! Such was the record of several of the sisters of the Visitation Convent, formerly located at Connecticut aveon authority. For forty years these sisters lived in the school, taking their exercise in the spacious grounds back of the building, surrounded by a high

As you go past the building now partments engaged by wreckers, the building and site having been sold recently for a big Meetings. trade, the Secretary of State initiated in March, 1919, the weekly meeting of a group of de-

Do fleas have wings?

Unless one had seen a nicture of a flea drawn under a microscope this stopped one of these "over-the-shoulquestion might prove a veritable puz- de mology, Department of Agriculture, enlightened the joint congressional commission on reclassification of salaries recently on this very point. Counting the hairs on a worm and the joints in a "cootie" are merely part of the job which Mr. Bradford

Perhaps the only traffic dog in of the fleas and stops 'em from jumping.' This was news to me fleas have wings."

> Another story of how an innocent Standing at a lunch counter, a young man happened to see a cockroach crawling over the counter, in-

> As the roach crawled along the edge of the counter 2 young woman came along and started to lean on the marble edge. She didn't see what the young man did, and was blithely proble edge. man grabbed her sleeve and pulled

> her arm back.
>
> The girl turned in astonishment, a look of inquiry in her eyes. The young man, in explanation, mo The girl looked, and saw a beauti-

> fully clean counter, and that was all
>
> the roach had crawled out of sight.
>
> "Well?" asked the girl, not exactly liking her sleeve to be pulled.
>
> The young man, mentally cursing the agility of the roach, could only "If you didn't see it, I'm glad," he said, heroically.

Why is it all the people in a street car listen eagerly whenever two persons happen to talk?

The phenomenon can be witnessed in lmost any street car whenever two persons with anything really to say t each other start talking. The kindly old lady looking out the window will word. The people all along the line of seats, if it happens to be a "box car" will one and the line of seats. stop doing that and take in car" will one and all eye the talkers and not miss a syllable.

Listening to other people talk on street cars is a cousin to that other street car vice—looking over your fellow passenger's shoulder to read his newspaper. It is pretty hard to make a whole street car full of people stop listening to others talking, but readers. First, he stopped reading and folded

up his paper. The old gentleman was not to be "May I borrow your paper?" he "I suppose you may," answered the younger man, with perfect politeness, but with an accent on the word "may." The old gentleman caught the

What did you say?" he asked. "What did you say: he asked:
"I said, 'I suppose you may,'" answered the young man, with great truthfulness.
"Humph!" snorted the old fellow.
But he didn't borrow the paper.
CHARLES E. TRACEWELL.